

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 APRIL 1986

Libya

Tripoli television service on 9 April carried a news conference by Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi during which he stated that "military plans for confrontation" have been completed. Al-Qadhafi warned of the spread of violence against the United States and "its civilian and military targets in all continents of the world" in the event of further U.S. "aggression" against Libya. Later in a statement to JANA, Al-Qadhafi included southern Europe "within the Libyan counterattack plan without any discrimination." JANA cited U.S. television reports that Reagan has decided to launch a "military aggression" against Libya.

In Madrid, a Libyan spokesman cited by EFE stressed that Libyan threats are not directed against Spain but only against U.S. bases in that country, asserting that Libya would never harm the Spanish people. The spokesman was reacting to Spain's decision to recall its ambassador from Libya for consultations, as reported by EFE.

In further reportage on Libya's proposal for unity with Sudan, SUNA noted that Libya has decided to allow Sudanese citizens to settle and own land in southwest Libya as a practical example for the unity project. The head of the Libyan People's Bureau in Khartoum, who announced the decision, added that Libya is expecting Sudan to reciprocate with a similar decision concerning Sudan's northwest border region, the agency added.

Israel

Resolution of Cabinet Crisis — After "thorough discussion," the Likud ministers approved a decision to exchange the Finance and Foreign Ministry portfolios until the rotation occurs, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio 11 April. He expressed satisfaction that the decision will enable the national unity government to continue. Shamir noted that he would meet with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres 11 April to discuss the form and time of his exchange of portfolios with Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i.

Gaza, Tabah Issues — Israel, the United States, and Egypt are working on an autonomy plan for the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem radio announced 11 April, adding that Peres discussed the plan during his recent talks in Washington. As for the Tabah issue, the radio said U.S. envoy Richard Murphy returned to Israel from Egypt "empty-handed" because the Egyptians were not prepared to accept U.S. help in determining the questions to be put to the arbitrator of the dispute.

Iran-Iraq War, Iranian Warnings on Gulf

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraq's II Army launched a "storming offensive"

late 10 April, capturing five important heights in the Harran Valley, which is in the central border area between Mandali and Sumar. Further south, Iraqi troops killed 190 Iranians in the East Maysan Sector on the night of 9 April, according to an earlier communique carried by the radio. For Iran's part, a military communique cited by IRNA reported that Iranian planes launched further raids on Iraqi troops and armor near Faqqah the evening of 9 April.

As for the situation in the Gulf, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed that as "the most powerful state in the region," Iran will "decisively confront any U.S. intervention" in the Gulf against the Islamic Revolution, "be it by invitation or not," Tehran radio reported. The spokesman, who was commenting on Vice President George Bush's current Gulf tour, warned Gulf states against inviting U.S. intervention, stressing that this will undermine their sovereignty and embolden the United States to say that it needs no invitation to intervene. In a related statement cited by IRNA, the commander of the Iranian Navy told Tehran's *ETTELA'AT* that Iran will "confront" any U.S. warships that are "bothersome" and threaten Iranian interests.

Lebanon

The 10 April car-bomb in Sidon killed 3 people and wounded 33, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, adding that a second booby-trapped car was defused and its owner was arrested.

PLO Affairs

Fatah has accepted Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's invitation to hold a PNC meeting in Algiers to discuss Palestinian unity, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf stated in remarks reported by KUNA. Khalaf said the Fatah leaders are ready to go to Algiers at any time for talks with other Palestinian factions. As for the new dissident movement among Fatah cadres in Jordan, Khalaf viewed Fatah official 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah's actions as a "television coup intended to pressure the PLO." A Palestinian source in Amman predicted that the PLO will issue an official announcement dismissing 'Atallah from the Fatah Military Council, according to Radio Monte Carlo. 'Atallah told Egypt's *AL-AKHBAR* that his "rectification movement" is aimed at correcting political, military, and financial mistakes committed by the Fatah leadership, MENA noted.

Pakistan

Addressing over half a million people at a rally in Lahore, Pakistan People's Party leader Benazir Bhutto called for fresh elections and urged President Ziaul Haq to resign, KYODO reported. Karachi radio has not thus far been observed to mention Bhutto's return to Pakistan.

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Karmal Congratulates Zhivkov on Reelection*LD101735 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 10 Apr 86*

[Text] Kabul, April 9, BAKHTAR — The PDPA and the people of Afghanistan recognise your excellency as a prominent personality of Communist Party of Bulgaria and the international communist and workers movements.

This is said in a congratulatory message sent by Babrak Karmal general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA to Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Communist Party of Bulgaria (CPB) on the occasion of his re-election as general secretary of the CPB.

The expansion of our brotherly ties based on Marxism-Leninism and internationalism of proletariat is worthy of appraisal.

We are sure that the Republic of Bulgaria will further achieve further gains in further. Certainly you will fulfill the duties put on our shoulder in 11th congress of your beloved party.

AAPSO Conference Opens in Kabul 9 Apr*LD101749 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0506 GMT 10 Apr 86*

[Text] Kabul, April 9, BAKHTAR — The second conference of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organisation, AAPSO, on the new international information order at the service of peace and progress, was opened here today. Over fifty delegations from forty five countries of the world and eight international organisations are attending the conference.

Inaugurating the conference, the message of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on the occasion was read by Anahita Ratebzad, Politburo member of the PDPA CC, president of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation of the DRA and AAPSO vice-president.

Some members of the Central Committee of the PDPA vice-presidents and members of the Revolutionary Council, deputy-chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers, representatives of social organisations and ambassadors of friendly countries in Kabul were present at the inaugural session of the conference presided over by Chona Biswas, vice-president of AAPSO.

The official statement of the Government of Afghanistan on the conference was read by Haji Muhammad Chamkani, vice-president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Congratulatory messages were read out by representatives of participating countries wishing success to the conference.

Karmal Sends Message*LD101756 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 10 Apr 86*

[Text] Kabul, April 9, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary

Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan sent a message to the participants of the second AAPSO conference on new international information order opened here today.

The selection of Kabul as the venue of such an important international conference for the second time, the message says, in itself is a manifestation of the realistic perception of the responsible journalists and personnel of the world mass media of the nature of the practices of reactionary imperialism in the sphere of information and a manifestation of the true struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples towards the practical ensurance of a new international information order.

The message emphasizes that the world imperialism and reaction, taking advantage of the great financial and technological possibilities in order to ensure their cultural and psychological domination over the peoples of the world, the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, in particular, are trying to undertake even further measures towards the subversion of the cultural values of the peoples and to give ever-wider scopes to their multidimension information aggression against them.

Taking into consideration the greatness of the undelayable tasks confronting us in the sphere of creating a new international information order, your today's gathering, which enjoys a significant and historic importance is another manifestation of the indefatigable efforts of the prestigious organization of AAPSO towards the ensurance of information equality, the democratization of mass communication system and eradication of the efforts and influence of colonialism, neocolonialism and imperialism, the message pointed out.

The DRA honestly pursuing the principles of equality and justice, has always played its role in this just struggle with persistency and in turn has mobilized all possibilities towards achieving this noble cause.

Babrak Karmal wished the participants great successes for the work of the 2nd conference of AAPSO on the new international information order, at the service of peace and progress.

Radio Reports Independent Pashtuns Jirga*LD101941 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] The jirga of the independent Pashtun tribes opened today in Kabul, the capital of revolutionary Afghanistan. The jirga is concerned with the following matters: Taking the necessary decisions against the dangers to the independent tribes from U.S. imperialism and Pakistani military reaction; the solidarity unity and cohesion of Pashtuns and Baluches and further consolidation of unity and fraternity between independent Pashtun tribes and revolutionary Afghanistan; the unity of Pashtuns, Baluches and Afghan brethren against reaction and imperialism; and gaining the just rights of the persecuted nationalities and the toiling people of Pakistan.

This glorious and historic jirga being convened in Kabul on the initiative of the independent tribes for consultation and exchange of views in order to repulse U.S. and Pakistan aggression against

the independent tribes and Afghanistan; for further consolidation of the unity of Pashtuns; to end the wicked imperialist war in the regions of the independent tribes; to prevent the wickedness of the rebels in the regions of the independent tribes; to safeguard the traditional historic freedom of the independent tribes and the future of the independent tribes, will play an important role in the history of Pashtuns in particular the independent tribes.

A total of 1750 persons are taking part in this jirga, among them are 1540 persons who are the chiefs, elders and representatives of 35 clans from the independent tribes of Pashtun-inhabited regions and Baluchistan — including the tribes of Salarzai, Mamund, Charmang, Otmankhel and Mushwani from Bajawar Agency; Mohmand, Shenwari, Safi, Gurboz and Saykh Muhammad from Muhmad Agency; Afred, Shenwar, Shalmani and Mulagori from Khyber Agency; Turi, Bangash and Para Chamkani from Kurm Agency; Otmanzay, Wazi, Dawur and Saydgay from Janubi (southern) Waziristan; Ahmadzai, Wazir, Masud and Baytanay from the Janubi Waziristan; Wrozkai, Para Chamkay from the Wrozkai Agency; representatives of Baluchistan Pashtuns and representatives of Baluch.

In addition to the aforementioned, some 200 persons from the representatives of the DRA border tribes, progressive and democratic organizations of Pakistan such as the National Democratic Party of Pakistan, the National Pashtunkhah Party, the National Awami Party, the Liberating Organization of Baluchistan, the Liberation Movement of Baluchistan, Sindi Baluch Pashtun, the Front Baluch Student Organization, Pashtun Student Organization, Mazdurkashan Party of Tribal Freedom Front, the International Baluch Organization and other progressive organizations of Pashtun and Baluch as well Pashtun jirga of India and Afghan jirga of India, have taken part in this jirga.

Moreover, the Democratic Student Federation and Sind Awami Tahrik, in their messages addressed to the jirga, have expressed their solidarity and support for this grand and historic jirga.

A number of the representative of various DRA social organizations have also taken part in this jirga.

The BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY [BIA] correspondent reports that at the beginning of jirga, Ajmal Khatak, the famous Pashtun poet, was unanimously elected as the chairman of the Independent Pashtun Tribes. After the recitation of a few verses from the holy Koran by Mawlawi Haji Mohammad Hashem Waziri, the work of the jirga was formally begun by electing the presidium and secretariat of jirga.

Ajmal Khatak then opened the historic jirga of the Independent Tribes by reading the statement of the jirga.

The BIA correspondent reports that the message of the DRA Revolutionary Council addressed to the historic jirga of the Independent Pashtun Tribes, was then read by Haji Mohammad Chamkani, vice chairman of the Revolutionary Council and chairman of the High Tribal jirga.

The message of the DRA Revolutionary Council addressed to the jirga of the Independent Pashtun Tribes:

The courageous and brave Pashtun bretheren,

On behalf of the people of Afghanistan the DRA Revolutionary Council congratulates you on this historic event — that is to say the convocation of the independent Pashtun tribes jirga — held in Kabul the capital of revolutionary Afghanistan and wishes you fruitful work.

Once again we announce that Afghanistan was and will be your homeland; no aggressive and oppressive power will be able to divide our united heart. We jointly defend our borders so that they can be transformed into a nonpenetrable shield against the traitors, agents of imperialism and enemies of the April Revolution. These borders will be always open before you, Pashtun bretheren.

You know that this year has been proclaimed as international year of peace. The DRA Government has always earnestly strived for the restoration of peace and in the future also will spare no efforts for this purpose.

We want to solve all issues around Afghanistan by peaceful means and we hope that the rulers of Pakistan also fulfil their part on this path and cease intervention and aggression. They should become ready to resolve all unsolved issues through peaceful means and to reject decadent and old-fashioned visions.

You gathered around each other in this blessing of spring — the blossoming days of new life — in the capital of revolutionary Afghanistan where Pashtunistan Square, the symbol of fraternity between the people of Afghanistan and the independent Pashtun tribes, is located at its heart.

We have full confidence that this jirga will be the unity and cohesive jirga of Pashtuns, the jirga of Pashtunwali [Pashtuns' code of conduct], honor and Islamicism, the jirga for the strengthening of struggle by the courageous and valiant Pashtun tribes against U.S. imperialism and its mercenaries and agents.

We fraternally wish your victory.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Further Reportage on Visit of Turkish Prime Minister

Holds Talks With Gandhi

BK091609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
9 Apr 86

[Text] The visiting Turkish prime minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, and Mr Rajiv Gandhi today reaffirmed the keen desire of their governments to intensify relations between the two countries. They also briefed each other about the developments in their respective regions.

Mr Ozal, who arrived in New Delhi this afternoon on a 6-day visit to India, called on the prime minister earlier this evening. The meeting which lasted 45 minutes was officially described as warm and cordial. Both the prime ministers felt that there are excellent prospects of intensifying bilateral relationship especially in the economic field. Mr Ozal explained Turkey's stand on the Cyprus issue. Mr Rajiv Gandhi reiterated India's support for the initiatives and efforts of the UN secretary general in this regard.

Mr Ozal also recalled the support Turkey received from all sections of the Indian people in its freedom struggle and expressed his appreciation for it. Mr Rajiv Gandhi referred to Jawahar Lal Nehru's visit to Turkey in 1960. He said the Turkish leader, Mr Kamal Ataturk, was greatly admired not only by Nehru but by the Indian people at large.

Ankara Report

TA101125 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT
10 Apr 86

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut ozal, who is on an official visit to India, is continuing to hold contacts there. The official Turkish-Indian talks started today.

This morning, Prime Minister Ozal laid wreaths at the mausoleums of Nehru, the founder of the Republic of India; independence leader Mahatma Gandhi; and former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Ozal also planted a tree of friendship at the park housing Nehru's mausoleum.

The Turkish-Indian talks began later. The Turkish delegation at the talks was headed by Ozal and the Indian delegation by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Ozal was also received by Indian President Zail Singh.

Speaking to reporters about Prime Minister Ozal's visit, Indian External Affairs Minister Bali Ram Bhagat said that India supports the UN secretary general's efforts in connection with Cyprus. He added that if the Turkish and Greek Cypriot sides agree to the establishment of a biregional federation in the island, India will support that solution. He said: We are studying the latest document prepared by the UN secretary general for the solution of the problem. The important thing is for the two sides to support this document.

Replying to a question, Bali Ram Bhagat said that a dialogue has been started for the solution of the problems between India and Pakistan, and that Turkey can make important contributions to this rapprochement.

The Indian external affairs minister stressed that with Prime Minister Ozal's visit, multidimensional and substantial talks have been started between the two countries, adding that the main aim is to strengthen mutual understanding.

Meanwhile, a protocol was signed envisaging cooperation between Turkish Radio and Television [TRT] and the Indian television network. The protocol was signed by TRT Director General Tunca Toskay and by the director general of the Indian television network, (Sami Sana). Under the protocol, the two sides will exchange personnel and programs and will produce joint programs. Toskay said that the protocol will help strengthen the rapprochement between the two countries. Prime Minister Ozal will continue to hold talks in India this afternoon.

Ozal: Talks 'Fruitful, Positive'

TA101726 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT
10 Apr 86

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has expressed the belief that his visit to India will mark the beginning of a new era in Turkish-Indian relations. A civil aviation agreement between the two countries was also signed in New Delhi.

In a news conference in New Delhi, Ozal announced that his talks with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi were fruitful and positive. Pointing out that the development of bilateral relations was especially discussed during the meeting, Ozal noted that agreement was reached to develop commercial and cultural cooperation. He remarked that bilateral trade is well below what it should and can be.

Replying to reporters' questions, the prime minister recalled that Turkey, one of the countries that have suffered most from terrorism, has appealed to all countries to fight this phenomenon.

Turkey and India also signed a civil aviation agreement, according to which Turkish Airlines will introduce flights to India beginning in July. Turkish Airlines will also transport passengers to Far Eastern countries via India. Indian Airlines will also schedule flights to Turkey in the near future.

The Turkish Radio and Television team in India reports that in his meeting with representatives of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi, Ozal recounted the structure of the Turkish economy and the economic developments of recent years. Noting that one of Turkey's main economic principles is opening up to the outside, Ozal explained that export levies and import incentives had been reduced. He stated that Turkey's rate of growth had increased and the country is now able to repay its foreign debts without any difficulty. Criticizing the protectionist policy implemented by developed countries, the prime minister charged that this adversely affects developing countries.

Tomorrow Ozal will travel to the Indian cities of Andhra and Bangalore, where he will continue his contacts.

Further Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab

*BK101609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
10 Apr 86*

[Excerpts] In Punjab three terrorists were killed in an encounter with the police near Vardoha in Amritsar District this afternoon. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh the exchange of fire continued for about an hour.

In a second incident two men of the railway police were shot dead and three others injured by some terrorists at Kotra Gujran railway station this evening. The terrorists, who were waiting at the railway station opened fire as soon as the train stopped and the policemen accompanying it alighted. The terrorists, while escaping, took away the rifles of the killed policemen.

In a third incident a subinspector of police was shot dead by car-borne terrorists near village Meherpur in Jullundhur District this evening. The culprits while fleeing fired at the people who collected there causing injuries to about four of them. More details are awaited.

Meanwhile, with the improvement in situation curfew was relaxed from 4 hours to 13 hours in Hoshiarpur, Hajipur, Garh Shankar, Ludhiana, Khanna, Pathankot, Batala, Nakodar and Patiala.

Assistance Given to 25,000 Sri Lankan Refugees

*BK100637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
10 Apr 86*

[Text] The Center has stepped up vigilance to check infiltration of extremists from across the border. The annual report of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 1985-86 has said relief has also been provided to over 25,000 refugees who came from Sri Lanka.

Regarding the law and order situation in Punjab, the report says the state government is keeping a watch and the Center is in constant touch with the state government. It said the Center is making all efforts to preserve and restore communal harmony throughout the country.

State governments have been asked to ensure that the administrative machinery is turned to respond to first signs of communal tensions. Comprehensive guidelines for combatting communal disturbances and promotion of communal harmony were also circulated to the states.

Nonaligned Members Discuss Preferential Trade

*BK091608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
9 Apr 86*

[Text] In New Delhi, the coordinating countries of the action program for economic cooperation among nonaligned countries

have agreed that the breakthrough made in three or four spheres should be consolidated. In exchange of information, they endorsed the decision about setting up a center of science and technology in New Delhi. There has also been unanimous agreement among the nonaligned and developing countries to give preferential treatment to each other in trade. The commerce ministers of these countries will meet in Brasilia next month to launch the first round of discussions on the generalized scheme of trade preferences. A research and information system is also being set up to coordinate work among different institutions. As a beginning, it will undertake a study of world economy from the point of view of developing countries. These are some of the issues that were discussed by the fifth meeting of the coordinating countries which began on Monday.

PATRIOT on Pakistani Aid to Tripura Secessionists

BK090929 Delhi PATRIOT in English 31 Mar 86 p 1

[By "Staff correspondent"]

[Text] Agartala, March 30 — Officials here confirmed that TNV [Tripura Nation Volunteers] extremists were receiving massive arms supply from Pakistan in order to destabilise the regions most sensitive State, Tripura.

Intelligence sources told this correspondent that about 30 pieces of arms which include 20 semi-automatic rifles, four light machine guns and six sten carbines have been transhipped from 24th division, Bangladesh army store based in Chittagong to TNV training camp at Nabacherra. This smooth transshipment was over in the first week of January. All the arms were of Chinese make.

The sources said that the transshipment was the result of an earlier meeting between three Pakistani special service groups officers namely, Major Abdullah Khan Rizvi, Captain Rezuan Khan, Bahadur Al Khan and the TNV self-styled president Bijoy Kumar Hrankhawl at 203 Balipara, Bangladesh army brigade in the Chittagong hills on 19 December, 1985. The Pakistan army intelligence officers promised to supply 50 pieces of sophisticated arms provided the TNV's operations should be stepped up.

The sources confirmed the Pakistan connection after the recovery of one Chinese semi-automatic rifle from Govindpara of south district on 27 March last after an encounter with the security personnel.

The sources said that about 25 new recruits had got training at the Nabacherra camp from Bangladesh army Major Safiqul Rahman and two Santi Bahini [peace forces — Bangladesh Rebel Forces] surrendered rebels Major Alien and Major Pyor. Besides arms training, the new recruits had got training in explosion and sabotage activities. This new outfit had already entered into Tripura sometime in February.

One group led by self-styled officer Dinesh Debbarma comprising 11 rebels were camping at Debdaru ranges for about four days. This correspondent while touring Govindpara and the adjacent tribal villages was told by the local villagers that the

TNV gang with highly sophisticated arms was surveying the entire area in order to launch an attack on the security personnel. Acting on information, posse of police and CRPF [Central

Reserve Police Force] jawans led by one police sub inspector rushed to Govindpara trekking 40 km of hilly terrain.

Junejo Warns Against Creating Political Unrest*BK101532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Apr 86*

[Text] Talking to newsmen in Multan today, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said that some 5 million slum dwellers will benefit from the ownership rights given to them recently. Replying to a question, he said this is not merely a promise but necessary instructions have also been issued to give it a concrete shape. The prime minister said his government is determined to eradicate bribery and corruption from the society and steps have been initiated in this regard. He said the security of the national exchequer is the responsibility of the government.

The prime minister said his government is an elected one and it is determined to solve people's problems and to take necessary steps in this regard.

About the country's political situation, he told a questioner that everybody is enjoying complete freedom. Various parties and leaders are holding meetings and leading processions. The government actually wants to encourage democratic activities, but if anybody tries to create a law-and-order problem, then it will be the responsibility of his government to deal with that person in accordance with existing laws. The prime minister observed.

BBC Reports Lahore Welcome for Benazir Bhutto*BK101229 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 10 Apr 86*

[From The "Radio Newsreel" Program]

[Text] The Pakistani opposition leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, was given tumultuous welcome in Lahore when she returned home from self-imposed exile in Europe. Miss Bhutto is seen as the political heir of her father the former prime minister, Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed 7 years ago. Our correspondent Mark Tully describes how Miss Bhutto was mobbed by ecstatic supporters along the 8-mile drive into the center of Lahore:

[Begin recording] Cheering crowds swelling all over the roads have slowed Benazir Bhutto's procession to less than walking pace. She is now well behind schedule. The police are not making any attempt to control the crowds. Standing on the top of a lorry, Benazir has been waving, clapping, and raising her hands in the victory salute for more than 9 hours. The crowds have been very hostile to President Ziaul Haq, the man who ordered her father's execution. They have been shouting: Zia is the murderer and Marcos has gone, Zia is going. They have also been shouting slogans against America. When the procession first moved off, American flags were burned. Later today, Benazir Bhutto is due to address a rally of the People's Party which her father founded. At the rally she is expected to announce her program. She has already said that she does not want to go for a frontal attack on President Zia and the government, but she has made it clear that she does want to see fresh elections in Pakistan and that she does not accept the partyless elections supervised by President Zia which brought this government to power. The government has made no serious attempt to stand in the way of Benazir Bhutto's

tumultuous welcome. It's clear that the police have been deliberately kept off the streets in case they provoke a confrontation. At the same time, the supporters of the People's Party have obeyed their leaders' instructions to be peaceful. So far they have been boisterous and noisy and there has been none of the violence which can so easily flare up on occasions like this. [end recording]

KYODO Provides Further Details*OW110049 Tokyo KYODO in English 0033 GMT 11 Apr 86*

[Text] Islamabad, April 10 KYODO — Addressing a huge rally of at least half a million people, Pakistan's 32-year-old opposition leader Benazir Bhutto Thursday demanded the ouster of President Gen. Ziaul Haq and the holding of fresh general elections.

Zia must quit peacefully, otherwise the people of Pakistan will take their own decision and work out their own strategy to oust him, she told the meeting at the Minar-e-Pakistan ground in Lahore, the capital of the state of Punjab, often called the bastion of Pakistan's power.

"Zia jawey, zia jawey," (Zia is bound to go) the crowd chanted as Benazir demanded Zia's departure.

Benazir, who had returned early Thursday morning after two years of self-exile in Europe, was addressing the first of a series of public meetings planned in major Punjab cities. It took her motorcade 10 hours to reach the venue of Thursday's meeting, 13 kilometers from the Lahore international airport.

The size of the crowd was unprecedented in Pakistan's politics, surpassing even the mammoth meetings addressed by her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who founded the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) that she now heads. He was president from 1971 until a bloodless military coup deposed him in 1977. He was hanged in April 1979 for allegedly ordering the murder of a former political opponent.

Benazir said directors [as received] in The Philippines and Haiti have been thrown out by the people and the third (Zia) in Pakistan was about to go.

She accused the Pakistan Army of violating the Constitution of the country and said its job was to defend and secure the borders and not to use bullets against its own people.

She said she took a vow in her father's prison cell to carry on his mission of struggling for the rights of the poor, and the PPP which she inherited from him would not change its commitment to Islam, democracy, socialism and all power to the people.

Benazir asked the crowd to indicate if they accepted the referendum on Islamization, through which Gen. Zia was elected for a five-year term beginning March 23 last year. As the crowd waved back their rejection of the referendum, Benazir asked why the government was afraid of facing the opposition in an election held on a party basis. She said she would never give up support of the poor masses and workers who had remained loyal to her, despite eight years of martial law.

Tehran Commentary on Bush Trip to Gulf States

Bush Remarks 'Fallacy'

GF101852 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 10 Apr 86

[From the "Behind the News" program]

[Excerpt] In rude remarks made by the U.S. vice president in a press conference on Tuesday [in Bahrain] he said: U.S. forces will interfere militarily, without waiting for an invitation, if free shipping in the Gulf is threatened. In his threats, Bush said: Iran should think twice and not upset the balance of power in the Persian Gulf region.

These remarks, which carry the meaning of a direct threat, are a clear fallacy and contradict facts because it is not Iran which is seeking war but the United States and its miniagents who believe that intervention by U.S. forces in the region can guarantee their false stability. It is not Iran which is threatening shipping in the Gulf but the aggressive Iraqi regime which receives U.S. blessings and aid and which is directly aided by the countries tied to U.S. influence in the region.

We do not want to review at this point the calls for fraternity and amity which Iran has been making to the countries of the Gulf region. These calls clearly affirm that the region's stability and security cannot be preserved except by its people and countries, and that giving the opportunity to the United States and its Western allies to interfere in the region's countries only carry signs of confusion and occupation and will undermine the security and stability of the countries and people of the entire region.

Concerning the war, Iran's decision remains decisive and constant: The only end to this war should include just punishment to the aggressor. The Muslim people in Iran have shown commitment to this policy and are now completely ready to realize their just goals.

Tehran Turkish Commentary

GF101824 Tehran International Service in Turkish
1830 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Unattributed commentary: "George Bush's Visit to the Persian Gulf"]

[Text] Dear listeners, George Bush arrived in Bahrain yesterday on the second leg of his visit to Persian Gulf countries and was welcomed by Officials of that island. Through its initiatives, the United States, which has recently embarked upon wide-ranging moves in the region within the framework of its Middle East policy, is currently endeavoring to create a place for itself as a mediator between aggressive forces in the area.

It will be recalled that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz visited Turkey, Greece, Italy, and France 2 weeks ago and held talks with their officials. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, on the other hand, is currently visiting a number of countries in Southeast Asia. Vice President George Bush and Richard Murphy, who is Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, are at

present engaged in plotting conspiracies against the revolutionary countries in the Middle East region whose people are Muslim. The latest U.S. moves in the region, which have been described as supposedly countering the intensive activity carried out by the Soviets in the Middle East region during the past year, are actually in response to the latest victories scored by the Islamic fighters against the forces of the Zionist Saddam regime. U.S. officials have been trying for many years to present the Iraq-Iran war as a common Arab cause like the question of Lebanon and that of Israel, which are the main problems of the region, with a view to diverting the attention of the mercenary regimes of the region. Endeavoring to present the Islamic revolution as a great threat to the region's governments, the United States has secured increased support from the Arab countries to prevent the fall of the Saddam regime. It has used this to divert the attention of a number of people in the region from the question of Palestine and the occupationist Zionists.

Bush, who during his visit to the Persian Gulf has described the Islamic Republic of Iran as the greatest threat to the region's countries, is pursuing such an insidious objective. Ignoring conditions in the region, Bush also made an empty threat that the United States can intervene in the Persian Gulf region. With this, he has revealed that U.S. imperialism wishes to intervene in the region's countries at every opportunity and that it uses such interventions to safeguard the interests of the aggressors. The pretext used by the United States, on the other hand, is to supposedly safeguard free trade in the Gulf. Yes, just as the United States safeguarded freedom in Vietnam by causing the death of millions of people for the sake of defending its exploitationist interests.

Cognizant of the true face of the ridiculous U.S. pretext, the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN AL-ARABI* published an article saying that the best way for the United States to defend free trade in the region is to categorically refrain from intervening in it.

Meanwhile, in a press conference Bush openly described the disgusting objectives of the U.S. officials. He said that the United States henceforth will not wait for an invitation by the region's countries to intervene. He added that the United States will intervene in the Persian Gulf region when it seems it necessary. Later, Bush gave the U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra, which belongs to Libya, as an example, noting that they had no invitation to enter the Gulf of Sidra. The disclosure of such a policy by a high-ranking U.S. official undermines all the propaganda by the reactionary regimes in the region. The peoples of the region are now asking where the United States gets the right to announce that it can intervene in the region at any time and embark upon any kind of attack?

Under such circumstances, do they have to welcome the U.S. officials in their own countries? Undoubtedly, the Islamic people will give the necessary response to the U.S. threats, but the hosts who welcome the U.S. officials should open a new account for themselves and enlighten their people in order to avoid the fate of the Americans.

Tour Beginning of 1988 Campaign
GF110821 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 0400 GMT 11 Apr 86

[From the "Pause With the Events" program]

[Excerpts] During his visit to Bahrain on Tuesday, the U.S. Vice President announced a new U.S. initiative to accelerate peace efforts in the Middle East. He said: The visit by Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, to the Zionist entity will belfor this purpose. Only a few hours after this was announced, the U.S. Department of State denied this, saying that Washington does not have any new peace plan or initiative in the Middle East. Bush affirmed in his remarks that Murphy would exert efforts to reach a formula for a settlement.

Bush's statements and Washington's denial confirm that one of the goals of Bush's visit to the Middle East region is to make a propaganda campaign for the next U.S. elections. Bush is one of the presidential candidates from the Republican Party. Bush, who, during his current visit to the Middle East will assure the countries allied to the United States in the region tried, by announcing a new U.S. initiative, to positively respond to the demands of the leaders of these countries. Bush expressed support for the 1982 Reagan plan and for the Arab Fes summit plan.

Taking into consideration the failure of the Reagan plan and the joint efforts by King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat, it seems that Washington is living under circumstances which do not allow it to talk about a new plan or initiative at present, particularly if the situation does not remain the same. It is possible that this situation will change as a result of the new developments in Iraq's war imposed on Iran.

Therefore, while Washington is trying to make Murphy's visit to occupied Palestine and a number of region's countries an attempt to receive new information, the USSR is making similar efforts. The recent visit by Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the USSR Foreign Ministry, to the three Arab countries — Jordan, Syria, and Egypt — was part of this framework.

The pressing question is: Is the United States really trying to end the Middle East crisis? Assuming that the United States is seeking this, what cannot be denied is that any plan will try to consecrate the interests of the Zionist entity and the Arab countries who sign this plan will be the main losers in this [word indistinct]. At any rate, any plan under preparation for peace in the Middle East in which the Zionist entity participates as an existing country will not achieve the interests of the region's countries — whether the plan is Western or Eastern. So far, all proposed plans have failed and have been unable to realize the goals of those who have supported them.

Commander: Navy Ready To Confront U.S. in Gulf
LD101538 Tehran IRNA in English 1512 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 10, IRNA — The commander of the Iranian Navy Thursday warned that his forces would go into action

against U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf if they become bothersome.

Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan said "if it becomes clear for us that their presence is a threat to our interests, we shall act firmly."

"American ships have not yet had the impudence to make any trouble. But if they want to be bothersome we shall confront them with strength" he told the *ETTELA'AT* newspaper.

A U.S. war fleet including the aircraft carrier *Enterprise* has been reported sailing south of the coast of Iran. U.S. Vice President George Bush who inspected the ships had threatened the Islamic Republic with military action.

Malekzadegan said "The presence of U.S. warships has increased in the Persian Gulf since Iranian Navy searched an American cargo ship for possible Iraqi military equipment and after Iran's Muslim combatants defeated Iraqi troops in southern Iraq" in February.

Islamic Republic of Iran has warned it would confiscate any cargo ship carrying military related equipment for the Iraqi regime.

The captain said "The U.S. fleet is stationed in the southern sector of the Persian Gulf and sometimes escort ships in a show of force but has not entered the security region declared by Iran."

"Whenever they come close to the security region we tell them they will face destruction if they enter the area". He said "we pass U.S. warships daily in our routine daily activity but have not yet made any operations against them."

The captain also expressed regret that Iran's southern neighbours have cooperated with the United States in harbouring their warships. "We are sorry that the countries in the region allow these ships to use their territorial waters" he said.

SAIRI Chairman Delivers Presermon Friday Speech
LD111232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 1030 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, the chairman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) was the pre-sermon speaker of the Friday prayers held in Tehran today. In his remarks, he referred to the movement of the Islamic revolution in Iraq and stated: The martyr Ayatollah Sadr, through his martyrdom, imparted a pragmatic manifestation on the direction of the Islamic revolution of Iraq and more than 20,000 martyrs in Iraq is a prominent sign that the Iraqi nation will continue the struggle by shedding its blood until the downfall of the Iraqi regime.

Referring to the imposed war he stated: This war with which we are at the moment involved is a war between Islam and blasphemy — a blasphemy embodied today in the forces of world arrogance and mercenary, reactionary and subservient regime of the region, and also in the criminal regime of Saddam; and an

Islam which has found its best model in the Islamic Republic of Iran and under the leadership of the Imam of the Ummah, in the rest of the Muslim nations of the world. Our battle is a united battle, the battle of Islam in confrontation with blasphemy and as Muslims, we must defend the edifice of our honor and dignity in all the territories of Islam. And it is for the sake of this that the Imam of the Ummah, in his recent remarks has stressed the point that every Muslim living in any part of the world, must adopt a decisive stance against the forces of world arrogance and world blasphemy. Therefore, it is incumbent on every Muslim to participate in this war.

He added: The regime of Saddam is now on its last leg and with just another pressure it will fade away from the face of this earth, and now, the Iraqi nation have chosen to adopt armed struggle against the Iraqi regime so that this subservient regime can be annihilated. The chairman of SAIRI, in conclusion, called on the Iraqi people both inside and outside the country, to continue the struggle through organized action in all fields, and all arenas and theaters aimed at the destruction of the infidel Iraqi regime; and that they should especially pay adequate attention to the military operations of the battlefronts of the war of justice against injustice.

French Deputy Minister Discusses Mutual Problems

LD101639 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 10, IRNA — French Deputy Foreign Minister Andre Ross met and conferred with two senior officials from the Foreign Ministry and the Nuclear Energy Organization here Thursday [10 April].

In the meeting with Iran's Deputy Prime Minister and head of the Nuclear Energy Organization Reza Amrollahi, the two sides discussed financial disputes especially those concerning the cooperation of the French and Iranian nuclear organizations.

The Islamic Republic is concerned that France has not paid back a one billion dollar loan by Iran for a nuclear project.

During the meeting the French deputy minister expressed the interest of his country to solve existing problems with Iran and normalize Paris-Tehran relations.

Andre Ross who is also the secretary-general of the French Foreign Ministry arrived here Wednesday at the head of a delegation.

In a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam the two sides discussed regional politics and recent remarks by the French Prime Minister.

Oil Minister Aqazadeh Interviewed on OPEC Meeting

GF110621 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Interview with Minister of Petroleum Aqazadeh by unidentified radio correspondent in Tehran; recorded — date not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] Your Excellency Mr Aqazadeh, on the eve of a new OPEC ministerial conference we are witnessing new developments in the oil market — the strike by oil workers in Norway and a U.S. pretence favoring increased oil prices. Would you please tell us your view on the situation in the oil market and your forecast of the future?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We were close to a decision during the last OPEC session. However, a couple of countries forced the delay. Some time has now passed and I hope that in the coming session all OPEC members will have come to realize that a crisis is threatening them and make quicker and more direct decisions and finalize the decisions that we were getting close to during the last session.

As we have clearly stated in our previous interviews, the recent developments are beyond anyone's control. The crisis expected to engulf the region cannot be controlled by the United States or anyone else. The Americans who come to the region these days, come to end such crises, but they cannot. The increase in the price of oil they [advocate] is an attempt to stem the crisis and reach a decision concerning prices. Iran's position has not changed. We will not go below the official OPEC price of \$28 under any circumstances.

Aside from the strike in Norway, considering the debts of other countries, a drop in their income approximating some 70 percent of their income, coupled with the fact that they are not the sort of countries that can easily communicate with their people, means they cannot adapt to the new conditions. Each dollar lost in their earnings causes a crisis in these countries, contrary to our country where our nation and government are a united ummah and can talk, adapt, and act on new conditions and stop any undesirable effects. These other countries are unable to do this. We have repeatedly stated, both during the OPEC session and in our interviews, that the new conditions create a disabling crisis in the region. They have been fooled by the superpowers into thinking that the promises will come true. Now they are faced with a loss of income and a loss of honor before their nations.

Today we again stress and hope that these nations have realized the present conditions and that in the coming session they will make serious and fundamental decisions in the interest of their nations so that they will not be ashamed and disgraced in front of their nations in the future.

[Correspondent] What is the latest Iranian proposal to solve the issue? Considering the differences of opinion, such as Iraq opposing a drop in its quota, as with some other countries, please tell us at what level the OPEC members will be able to agree?

[Aqazadeh] In the first session [as heard] we reached an agreement on prices after long discussions. The conference announced — this was the view of the Islamic Republic — that we should return to the official \$28 price. However, our proposal on how to return to this price level involved exact control of exports and a drop in production levels for the second quarter. There was much discussion on this and Iran's proposal for a ceiling of 13 million barrels was raised to 14 million. This was agreed on. However there were differences of opinion on the quotas and in the last instance — we believe this came about

under direct American pressure — Venezuela opposed a ceiling of 14 million barrels. Iraq was opposed to its quota. As usual Iraq was acting ignorantly, because even if it sells 2 million barrels now, it will not be able to earn its previous income. This income would be far less than if they were to agree to their quota and a price which would ensure their income. Our enemies are fools.

We hope that the current crisis has brought them to their senses and that the main issues of the coming session — a production ceiling and quotas — will be resolved very quickly.

[Correspondent] Considering the present oil price, around \$10 or maybe a few dollars more, some people may speculate about the foreign reserves of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Since you are a member of the special foreign reserves allocation commission [SFRAC], please tell us what the current situation of our reserves is and whether we can fulfill our needs in this respect, particularly for the fronts?

[Aqazadeh] Yes. Concerning our reserves, we are in a very good position and have the necessary conditions to manage the country. That is, we have our nation! I should say that our defense allocation has not been cut at all over any period. In fact, it has an open ceiling and whatever the fronts need, SFRAC will allocate. The second priority is given to essential goods. There is no limitation on them this year. Reserves have been allocated for them as in previous years and they will be available. As far as industry and other areas are concerned, with our planning and government policy and those policies followed by SFRAC, we do not believe that we will have any serious problems. We consider it a blessing that will make our industry actively export non-petroleum items and increase production for both exports and domestic consumption. The current conditions for export of non-oil products were never present during the past few years. All organizations and ministers are seriously acting to plan for such exports. The Petroleum Ministry is carrying out a serious investigation concerning the export of gas. We hope to have results very soon. God willing, we will have a certain income from the sale of gas in the future.

[Correspondent] Will the export of gas be by previous methods or have you been planning new methods?

[Aqazadeh] We are reviewing all methods and have discussed it with various countries. We have had discussions with Turkey and the USSR. There are other venues besides these two countries and considering the very large gas reserves in our country, the possibility exists that we can export gas for a long time and thus have a sure source of foreign reserves.

Volunteers Requested for Combat Engineer Battalions
LD102012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
 10 Apr 86

[Text] In a press, radio, and television conference today a reconstruction jihad war support official said that we are now determined to equip and dispatch to the fronts the combat-engineering units for 100 operationally ready divisions by using the jihad's capabilities and popular donations. He said: Apart from their usual work, more tasks have been earmarked for the 45,000 jihad

wagers on the fronts whereby the entire 45,000 jihad wagers will be reorganized into combat engineer battalions and will be made ready for operations. He added: It is planned to make extensive use of the potential capabilities of governmental and semigovernmental organizations and factories. If these capabilities reach their optimum, they will be dispatched to the fronts as independent battalions with adequate equipment and entrusted with independent missions; our capabilities will thereby exceed 100 divisions on the fronts [as heard], and we will not have any shortages from the standpoint of support and service forces.

Inviting the thinking and talented university forces and the committed popular forces in the military fields, the reconstruction jihad war support official said: A great many of the steps carried out in the field of engineering research in support of the jihad war have come about thanks to using the creative, part-time forces that are cooperating with the jihad, and we hereby invite the experts and the creative forces to cooperate with the reconstruction jihad in supporting the fronts and the specialist forces in every area. On applying to the reconstruction jihad they will be dispatched to one of the centers taking their speciality into consideration.

He added: We are prepared to utilize university forces in all fields of endeavor. Referring to the joint form worked out by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the reconstruction jihad and published in the press, he then said: Those volunteers who have filled out these forms, thereby declaring their cooperation with the reconstruction jihad, will be called up at the right time and the time they spend on the fronts will be considered part of their national service.

In conclusion, referring to the welcome given by volunteers to going to the fronts, the reconstruction jihad war support official said: The volunteers will have ample opportunity before their call up, which will be decided by the command, to prepare themselves mentally and physically.

9,000 Volunteers Leave for Fronts

LD102033 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 10, IRNA — Traffic in central Tehran came to a standstill Thursday as a 9,000 strong division of para-military volunteers marched before leaving for the war fronts. Wearing khaki uniforms and headbands, the volunteers waved flags that they would later carry into battle. Their families and bystanders lined the two sides of the street.

The group was the third "caravan of Karbala" named after a city in central Iraq where Husayn, the grandson of the Muslim prophet Mohammad (may peace be upon him) is buried.

Iran's Islamic Army has vowed to battle its way to the shrine, a symbol of innocence in religious terminology. Husayn was martyred with 72 companions in battle against an army of several thousand.

In front of the Majlis (parliament) building, speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke for the caravan. "You have shaken the back of

the enemy. This gathering is a thorn in the eye of the unbelievers" he said.

"I hope to see you here again on the day that we celebrate the victory in war" he said. The prime minister, members of the cabinet and Majlis deputies stood next to the speaker on the steps of the parliament.

A 15 by 30 meter placard, proclaiming adherence to the recent call of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution, on the need to warm up the war fronts hung on the walls of the Majlis building.

Later in the day the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps said it was establishing a new military headquarters to conduct guerrilla warfare inside Iraqi soil. It said 18 to 30 year-old volunteers, with or without guerrilla experience could join the new organization. The "headquarters has the mission of expanding guerrilla warfare in the depth of enemy soil and to aid Muslim Iraqi mojahedin" it said.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,436

LD101554 Tehran IRNA in English 1522 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 10, IRNA — Jet fighters of the Islamic Republic heavily bombed centration centers of Iraqi troops and their armoured units 18 kms northwest of Faqqeh, southern front, at 18:25 hours (14:55 hours GMT) Wednesday, said a military communique here Thursday.

Communique Number 2436 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said the fighters inflicted casualties and irreparable damage on the Iraqi forces and all returned to their bases safely.

The command said Islamic Forces of Iran continued their artillery exchanges with Iraqi troops throughout the northwestern front especially in Lolan, Haj 'Umran and Sardasht inflicting heavy casualties and damage.

On Wednesday, the communique said, artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants hit enemy economic installations and industrial centers in Ban-Mil and Naft Khaneh.

It added that the exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in the western fronts raging somewhat more heavily in Naft-e Shah and Sumar as a result of which over 15 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and eight bunkers, two observation posts, and one armoured personnel carrier destroyed. Two Iraqi vehicles were also damaged.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, Muslim combatants fortified their positions and shelled positions and gun emplacements of the Iraqi forces inflicting considerable casualties and damage.

Iranian forces smashed an Iraqi infantry battalion trying vainly to attack their positions in Sharhani Region at 03:45 hours (00:15 hours GMT), according to the communique.

It said another Iraqi unit which attacked Iranian positions in Pich-e Angizeh at 10:30 hours (07:00 hours GMT) Wednesday was forced to flee while sustaining casualties when they faced resistance of Iran's Muslim combatants.

Clandestine Reports on Activities in Tehran

Student Demonstration

GF101756 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] The latest figures received on the results of the demonstrations held in the southern parts of Tehran on Sunday indicate that this incident left 2 dead and 23 wounded.

We remind you that last Sunday about 2,000 students living in southern Tehran demonstrated on Khani-Abad-e Now Street, which the Voice of the Liberation of Iran referred to as unique, being the first brave step taken by weary Iranians in the new Persian year.

The reason for the demonstrations was the forced dispatch of a group of young people, living in southern Tehran, to the war fronts. According to our correspondent, in addition to the 2 killed and 23 wounded, 180 students were arrested during these demonstrations.

Officials Arrested for Espionage

GF101912 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Excerpt] According to a report from Tehran, 23 of Khomeyni's top officials have been arrested on charges of espionage for the USSR. Among them are two ambassadors, four former ministers, three of the regime's charges d'affaires serving abroad, a group of commanders from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Gorgan and Western Azarbayjan Province, a group of military personnel, employees of Iran National Airlines, five Gendarmerie NCO's, and several theological students from clerical centers.